

NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

Ms. McCarthy-Redd: Student Service-Learning Coordinator, Counseling Department

WHAT IS STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)?

- ❖ A Maryland State Department of Education high school diploma requirement
- ❖ A teaching method that combines academic instruction, meaningful service and critical reflective thinking
- ❖ Activities involving phases of preparation, action, and reflection
- ❖ Indirect, direct, and advocacy opportunities

WHY IS SSL A DIPLOMA REQUIREMENT IN MARYLAND?

- ❖ To strengthen character through civic engagement and political involvement
- ❖ To encourage a habit of community involvement and responsibility
- ❖ To promote involvement in activities that address community needs through service ethic

DID YOU KNOW....?

- ❖ If you earn 240 hours or more, you can receive a **Certificate of Meritorious Service at Graduation**.
- ❖ MCPS SSL forms are available in the Counseling Department or SSL website: <https://bit.ly/SSLHubMCPS>. Check website for organizations and activities that on the **APPROVED LIST** 🎓 <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter>
- ❖ If a service is **NOT** listed as an approved MCPS SSL activity, you must complete a **REQUEST APPROVAL FORM**. Forms can be found in the Counseling Office or on SSL website.
- ❖ **ALL** students are required to complete **75 SSL HOURS**.
- ❖ **SSL FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE COUNSELING OFFICE BY THE 1ST FRIDAY IN JUNE.**

NOW WHAT....?

(Before Completing Service)

1. Select the type of service you wish to complete.
2. Find an organization with which to serve.
3. Check website <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/> see if organization is on the approved list.
 - A. **IF YES: Do Service.**
 - B. **IF NO: Please complete the Application of Student Service-Learning Request Activity form found in the Counseling Dept. or <https://ww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/560-50.pdf>**
 - i. **Have form signed by organization, including the tax ID number**
 - ii. Return form to Ms. McCarthy-Redd in the Counseling Office
 - iii. Once approved, do service

(After Completing Service)

1. Obtain a **Student Service-Learning Activity verification form** found in the Counseling Dept or website: <https://ww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/detail.aspx?formNumber=560-51&catID=2&subCatId=9>
2. Complete Student information and reflection statement
3. Have supervisor fill out the organization information section.
4. Return verification forms to Ms. McCarthy-Redd, in the Counseling Office.
5. The hours will show up on your report card and you can also review them under StudentVUE

DEADLINE FOR TURNING IN DOCUMENTATION TO THE SSL COORDINATOR IS THE

- **LAST FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER FOR SUMMER HOURS**
- **FIRST FRIDAY IN JANUARY FOR FIRST SEMESTER**
- **LAST FRIDAY IN MAY FOR SECOND SEMESTER**

All SSL forms must be in by the 31ST OF MAY.

Click here for the [MCPS SSL Hub for Students/Families](#).